besides one minute distal eupathidia.

Chaetotaxy of legs is as shown in Figs. 5-8. Trochanter I bears a postero-dorsal spine (Fig 9). Telofemorae III and IV with 0:1 ventral setae, tibiae III and IV each with two ventral setae (one pectinate and one slender). Tarsi III and IV with 4 and 3 dorsal setae respectively.

Female: The idiosomal length of female ranged between 212 and 237 μ. The female resembles the males in almost all respects except the GA and in having relatively wider membranous zones between the body plates of dorsum and venter. GA bears paragenital areolae and three pairs of perigenital setae around GO. One pair of Subgenital Setae are present on the GO (Fig. 3). Ovipositor is small.

The costae are two pores wide in the present Indian Ocean specimens, while in the Bermudan specimens the costae are only one pore wide (Bartsch 1978). Green and Macquitty (1987) figured costae two pores wide for their British coast specimens but made no mention of it in the text. Considering the available descriptions from Bermuda and British coasts and the present one it appears that the width of the costae is variable.

C. hartwigi was collected among the thalli of upper littoral algae in both the Bermudan and Indian coasts. But in the British coast, the species was found in sublittoral sediments. When the variations in the width of the costae are viewed against the diversity of the habitats of *C. hartwigi* in different geographic regions, it becomes apparent that the intraspecific morphological diversity reflects not only the impact of latitudinal variations, huge intervening water masses and land barriers but also the influence of local and regional habitat fragmentation, niche formation and segregation. Studies should be made to elucidate the morphological variants occurring within the same or different biogeographical realms.

Thanks are due to Dr. Ilse Bartsch, Biologische Anstalt Helgoland, Hamburg (FRG) for her ready help in providing literature, and to the authorities of Regional College of Education, Bhubaneswar, for extending laboratory facilities.

A.L.N. SARMA
May 31, 1990 TAPAS CHATTERJEE

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34. TERATOLOGICAL NOTES ON THE FRUIT OF *CHIONANTHUS RAMIFLORUS* ROXB.

(With a text-figure)

While scrutinising the herbarium specimens of the family Oleaceae from the Andaman and Nicobar islands at Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair herbarium (PBL), I came across an interesting specimen of *Chionanthus* L. collected by N.G. Nair *3534* from Car Nicobar island.

The specimen does not match with any Indian species of the genus from the peculiar size and texture of the fruit. The fruit was 3.5-5.5 cm long with 8 ridges. The specimen matches with *Linociera beccariana* Stapf, known from Sumatra, in having similar leaf shape, size, texture, size of the petiole and eight ridges on fruit, but differs in not having flattened internodes, short and thin petioles, less thickened peduncles and pedicels.

Later the specimen was sent to Dr. Ruth Kiew for confirmation of its identity. Kiew in her reply stated that "...the fruits on your specimen are exceptionally large (the largest I had previously seen on other specimens was 2 cm long). It belongs to *Chionanthus ramiflorus* Roxb.... the fruit is also typical in having a thin, brittle pericarp and in the seeds being exalbuminous. Its ridges are the result of superficial vascular bundles (in *L. beccariana* the pericarp is thick and even the inner surface shows the ridges.)..."

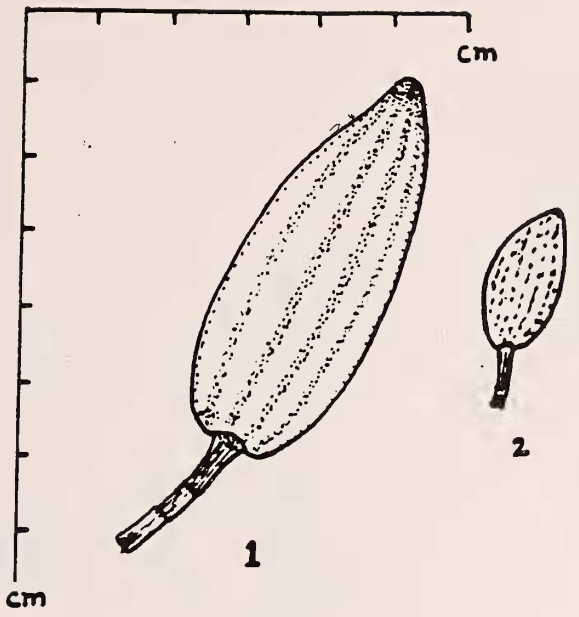

Fig. 1. Fruit of *Chionanthus ramiflorus*. 1. Fruit (Nair 3534 PBL) of peculiar size, 2. Fruit (Chakraborty 3801 PBL) of

I have also not come across such peculiarity in the fruits of *C. ramiflorus* Roxb. during the course of my revisionary study of Indian Oleaceae.

However, the comparison of the total characters of *C. ramiflorus* shows that our specimen is otherwise normal except in drupe size and texture. It is noticed that usually teratological forms develop due to fungus or insect attacks. Teratology plays an important role in the phylogenetic interpretations as stated in PRINCIPLES OF PLANT TERATOLOGY (Worsdell, W.C. 1915). *C. ramiflorus* with such large fruit and prominent ridges could easily misguide the explorer. To facilitate easy identification of the species in the field, fruits have been illustrated in Fig.1.

Hence, it is clear that this gigantism in fruits of *C. ramiflorus* is not hereditarily fixed, but further observation of this type of gigantism in plant parts may give clues to their phylogeny.

I am grateful to Dr. Ruth Kiew, Department of Biology, Agriculture University, Malaysia, for confirming the plant species and to Deputy Director, Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair, for encouragement.

September 27, 1990. S.K. SRIVASTAVA

35. NEW RECORD OF *SCHEFFLERA* J.R. & G. FORST (ARALIACEAE) FROM INDIA

(With a text-figure)

During the course of plant collection in the forest areas in Great Nicobar Islands, I collected plant specimens identified as *Schefflera* of Araliaceae, from the 38 km East-West Road of Campbell Bay. On critical examination at Central National Herbarium it was found that the species compares well with one Javanese specimen designated as *Heptapleurum longifolia* Seem.

Frodin (1975) and Philipson (1979) treated the genus *Heptapleurum* Gaertn. under *Schefflera* J.R. & G. Forst. *Schefflera* J.R. & G. Forst *nom. cons.* (= *Heptapleurum* Gaertn.) is represented by 200 species in the world. In India it is represented by *c.* 15 species (Santapau and Henry 1973).

Hooker (1879) recorded 15 species of *Heptapleurum* Gaertn. Of these, 9 are reported from various parts of India, mainly north-west Himalaya, Khasi hills and Nilgiris. They also occur in Bhutan, Burma, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Two species, viz. *Schefflera elliptica* (Bl.) Harms and *S. venulosa* (W. & A.) Harms are known to occur in the Andaman and Nicobar islands (Vasudeva Rao 1986).

Critical study of the specimen and literature reveals that the present collection is *Schefflera longifolia* (Bl.) Vig. – a Javanese species hitherto not recorded from India. Therefore, it is reported here with nomenclatural citation, detailed description and illustrations.

Schefflera longifolia (Bl.) Viguier in Ann. Sci. Nat. ser. 9, 9: 356. 1909. *Sciadophyllum longifolium* Bl. Bijdr. 876. 1826. *Heptapleurum longifolium* Seem. in Jour. Bot. 3: 79. 1865. (Fig. 1).

An evergreen tree, *c.* 8-10 m tall, younger parts covered with a fluccose scurfy or tawny tomentum. Leaves digitately 5-7 foliolate; petioles 80 cm long, nearly glabrous, smooth, very finely ribbed, base spathaceous with numerous warted growths; leaflets 28–35 x 8–13 cm, ovate, oblong to oblong-ovate, coriaceous, glaucous beneath, broadly serrate on margin, acuminate, rounded or obtuse at base; petiolules 5.5-6.5 cm long with spathulate base; lateral nerves 15-18 pairs, prominently raised beneath.

Inflorescence terminal, umbel shorter than leaf.